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Wanderers

CANON LEAGUE
DIVISION THREE

CAMBRIDGE UNITED

SATURDAY 22nd DECEMBER 1984
KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

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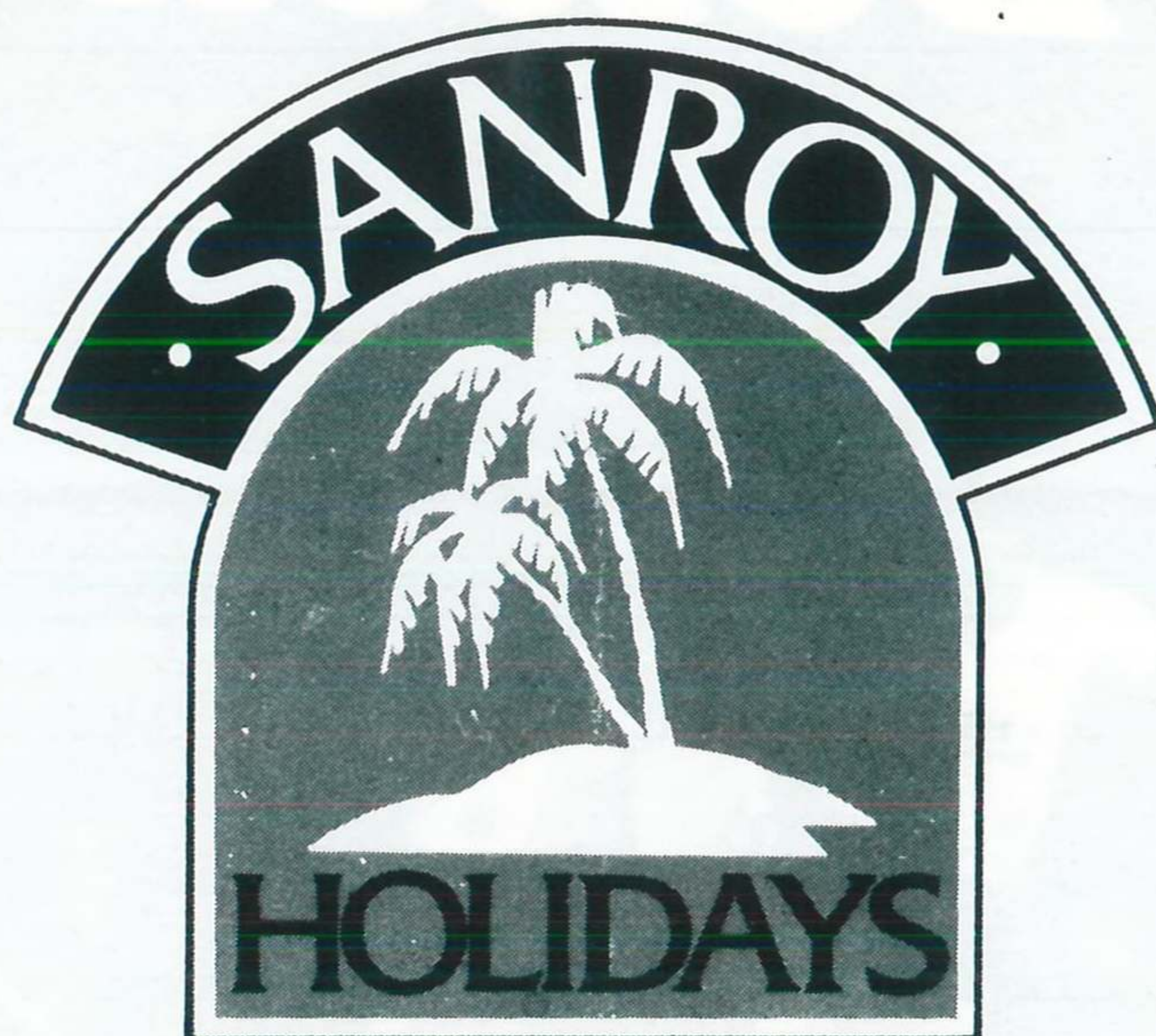
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THIS AFTERNOON we extend a warm Bolton welcome to Cambridge United and of course to Mike Bennett, one of our former players, who started his football career at Burnden Park.

Cambridge like ourselves are at the moment one of the poor relations of the Third Division — as far as League positions

go — but anyone who thinks today's match will be an easy win for us after beating Millwall last week would be very foolish.

Speaking to Millwall manager George Graham after the game he pointed out that Cambridge had in fact beaten them already this season. That erased any thoughts of John Ryan's side being a bad team.

Over the last week or two we have been playing with a change of system and without detracting from our attacking flair I would say it has been a minor success. In the next few weeks we will be able to judge whether to continue with it or not.

It is a major problem for any team to change its style and we have only done it ourselves because we think we have the players capable of adjusting.

We must be envied by a lot of clubs to have the likes of George Oghani, Tony Caldwell, Jeff Chandler, Wayne Foster, Simon Rudge, and Steve Saunders and with an improvement in our defensive qualities then my claim that we are good enough to compete with any team in the league will begin to bear fruit.

As this is the last time we will see you all before Christmas may I take the opportunity to extend to you the compliments of the season on behalf of the players, the coaching staff and myself.

FRONT COVER: So near! Mark Came hit the bar with this header against Gillingham.



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Welcome to the Park

CAMBRIDGE UNITED

CAMBRIDGE SMASH THE WRONG RECORDS

by Tony Pullein

Cambridge United's six-year spell as a Second Division club ended when they were relegated at the end of last season. Now they are at the bottom of the Third Division and face the prospect of facing another relegation.

In an attempt to stop the slide manager John Ryan, who took over last January, has come out of retirement to help prop up the defence and he has been into the market to make several new signings.

Goalkeeper Keith Waugh came from his old club Sheffield United, midfield man Alan Comfort was signed from Q.P.R. whilst forwards Roy McDonough and Pat Rayment were transferred from Exeter City and Peterborough respectively.

Away form has been particularly disappointing but they did have the satisfaction of ending a run of 28 away games without a win when they triumphed at Newport County (2-1) in November.

Their only other away points this season were obtained at Orient (2-2) and Lincoln (1-1). They were beaten at Bradford City (0-2), Gillingham (0-3), York (2-3), Doncaster (2-3), Hull City (1-2) and Reading (1-3) in the League and Brentford (0-2) in the Milk Cup.

Last season was undoubtedly the worst in Cambridge's League history. As they struggled to hold their own in the Second Division they set up a new Football League record when they played 31 consecutive games without a win.

Even allowing for their present predicament though, Cambridge have made astonishing progress in very short time. Though this is only their 15th season as a Football League club they already have three successful promotion campaigns behind them.

Going back further, we find that it wasn't until 1961 that they even aspired to premier division status in the Southern League.

Indeed, the club is one of the youngest in the Football League, having been founded in 1919.

They were still an amateur club in 1946 and it wasn't until 1958 that they gained admission to the Southern League.

In 1961 they gained promotion to the premier division and the following season they won the Southern League Cup. A year later again, they finished runners-up in the Southern League behind their local rivals Cambridge City.

For many years, United were considered the junior of the two Cambridge clubs. Talk of amalgamation never got very far and it was usually City who were considered to have the best chance of getting into the Football League.

Yet it was United who ultimately forged ahead. They won the Southern League Cup again in 1965 and they took the Southern League Championship for the first time in 1969. They repeated that feat a year later and promptly

gained election to the Fourth Division of the Football League.

It took them only three seasons to rise to the Third Division status but their progress was then interrupted as they suffered immediate relegation. They bounced back to win the Fourth Division Championship in 1977 and a year later they won further promotion as runners-up in Division Three.

After becoming a Second Division club for the first time in 1978, Cambridge have usually finished around the half-way mark — though they have achieved a club record eighth place in 1979/80 — but in 1982/83 their placing of 14th was their lowest since winning promotion in 1978.

Last season was a disastrous one. And, sadly, unless they can quickly put together a few wins, it looks likely that they will return to the Fourth Division next season.

KEITH WAUGH (Goalkeeper). Keith has recently joined Cambridge from Sheffield United. He didn't get into League soccer with his first club Sunderland but, soon after joining Peterborough in 1976, he got his chance and quickly made his mark. Sheffield United paid £90,000 for him in 1981.

KEITH OSGOOD (Defender). Keith is a former England schoolboy and youth international who began his League career with Tottenham in 1974. He won a regular place at the start of the 1975/76 season and was ever-present for two seasons. Coventry signed him for £125,000 in 1978 and he moved on to Derby for £150,000 some 18 months later. Orient signed him in 1981 but he was released at the end of last season.

JOHN RYAN (Defender). John is Cambridge's manager but he came out of retirement this season to help in the club's fight against relegation. He was once a junior player with Arsenal but made his League debut for Fulham in 1965/66. Luton signed him in 1969 and he spent seven seasons at Kenilworth Road as a regular member of their first-team. He moved on to Norwich City in 1976 and was their leading scorer in his second season at Carrow Road. Seattle Sounders signed him in 1980 but, when their season was over, he returned to this country to join Sheffield United. Manchester City signed him in 1981 and last season he turned out for both Stockport and Chester before taking over as manager of Cambridge in January this year.

STEVE FALLON (Defender). Steve has given Cambridge superb service since joining them from Kettering Town in 1974 and he has now played more than 400 competitive games for the club. He has been a fixture in the side for ten years, missing only when injured.

MIKE BENNETT (Defender). Mike returns to Burnden Park where he started his professional career. He made his League debut for the Trotters during the 1979/80 season and made a total of 65 appearances in our League eleven. Whilst he was a Bolton player, Mike won England youth honours and it was last season when he moved on to Wolves. He didn't stay at Molineux for very long, though, as Cambridge signed him shortly before last season's transfer deadline.

DAVID MOYES (Defender). David was signed from Celtic during the early weeks of last season and quickly settled down in the back four. He made almost 50 first-team appearances for Celtic.

ANDY BEATTIE (Defender/Midfield). Andy served his apprenticeship at the Abbey Stadium and came through for his league debut last season.

STEVE SPRIGGS (Midfield). Steve completed his apprenticeship with Huddersfield Town but was limited to four appearances in their League eleven. He moved on to Cambridge in 1975 and has since been a permanent member of their senior side. Steve has played more than 350 first-team games for Cambridge.

ALAN COMFORT (Midfield). Alan was signed from Q.P.R. earlier this season. He didn't get into Rangers' first-team but he made his League debut for Cambridge against Bristol City in September.

KEITH LOCKHART (Midfield). Keith is a former Cambridge apprentice who made his League debut three seasons ago.

ANDY SINTON (Forward). Andy is a former England schoolboy international who joined Cambridge as an apprentice and who made his League debut two seasons ago. He earned a regular place in the side last season.

ROY McDONOUGH (Forward). Roy was signed from Exeter City earlier this season. His football travels started after he had made his League debut for Birmingham in 1976/77. A couple of years later he moved on to Walsall and enjoyed two successful seasons at Fellows Park. Chelsea signed him for £20,000 in 1981 but he didn't get a first-team game for the Stamford Bridge club. Within weeks, he had signed for Colchester and he remained with them for two seasons. He started last season with Southend, then spent a loan period with Exeter before completing the transfer in the summer.

PAT RAYMENT (Forward). Pat is a versatile player who has turned out both in defence and attack this season. He was given his chance in League soccer with Peterborough in 1981/82 and he remained with the Posh until moving on to Cambridge this October.

ROBBIE COOKE (Forward). Robbie thought he was on the soccer scrapheap when Mansfield released him in 1978 after only 15 appearances in their League eleven. He went non-League with Grantham until Peterborough signed him in 1980 and gave him a come-back chance. He took it well, scoring 29 goals in his first season and 27 in 1981/82. He was transferred to Cambridge two seasons ago and last season was their leading scorer.



Back Row: Kevin Smith (now Exeter), Dean Greygoose, Andy Higginbottom, Keith Branagan, Les Cartwright.

Middle Row: Steve Fallon, Andy Beattie, Mark Cooper, David Moyes, Keith Lockhart, Steve Clark.

Front Row: Graham Daniels, Andy Sinton, Mike Bennett, Steve Pyle, Steve Spriggs, Kevin Massey, Robbie Cooke.

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Club News

In Retrospect

The Wanderers face Cambridge Utd. today for the 7th time in the Football League and for the first time in the Third Division.

To date Bolton have won 3 games to United's 2 with the 3 previous games here at Burnden producing 16 goals. This first game took place here in November 1980 when the Wanderers ran out 6-1 winners, Brian Kidd scoring his second hat trick of the season. Bolton's other goals came from Neil Whatmore, Dave Hoggan and Len Cantello with Alan Taylor scoring for United.

The Wanderers' first ever visit to the Abbey Stadium saw Bolton complete the double with a 3-2 win in an entertaining game. Peter Reid opened the scoring only for Steve Fallon, later to be sent off, to equalise for United. Dusan Nikolic restored Bolton's lead before Tommy O'Neill levelled the scores. The winning goal came from Neil Whatmore with his 100th Football League goal for Bolton. The game also produced six bookings to keep the drama running.

In October 1981 the game at Burnden again produced a goal bonanza with Cambridge running out 4-3 winners. Steve Spriggs opened the scoring for United from the penalty spot but the Wanderers came back with goals from Tony Henry his first for the club and Brian Kidd only for Chris Turner to level things up just before the interval.

Headers from Roger Gibbins and Joe Mayo gave Cambridge a 4-2 lead but Bolton came back in the latter stages although they could only find the net once through Tony Henry.

The return at the Abbey Stadium took place in March 1982 with Cambridge completing the double by winning 2-1. The Wanderers' defence were weakened when after only 8 minutes Mike Doyle was stretchered off with damaged ligaments. Roger Gibbins put United into the lead in the 25th minute although Tony Henry equalised against the run of play just before half time.

United's Joe Mayo was stretchered off in the 61st minute with an ankle injury and substitute Tommy O'Neill netted the winning goal with his first touch of the game.

The only scoreless game between the clubs was in December 1982 at the Abbey Stadium. Neil Whatmore commenced his loan period with the Wanderers but the game was a dull affair. The only cheer from the game for Bolton was the fact that it was their fourth successive game without a defeat and for United the first time they had kept a clean sheet that season.

The last game between the sides took place here at Burnden in April 1983 when Bolton defeated today's visitors by 2-0 to give them some hope of avoiding relegation. Dave Hoggan opened the scoring after only 3 minutes with a tremendous volley after controlling the ball on his chest. Hoggan also grabbed the second goal in the 77th minute with another opportunist effort. This victory was Bolton's last in the Second Division and also produced the smallest attendance of the season at Burnden of 4,636. The sides for the last encounter were:-

Bolton: McDonagh, Whitworth, Deakin, Gray, McElhinney, Doyle, Chandler, Rudge, Moores, Hoggan, Borrowes. Sub: Joyce for McElhinney.

Cambridge: Webster, Fisher, Murray, Turner, Reilly, Finney, Christie, Sinton, Goldsmith, Cooke, Pyle. Sub: Street for Goldsmith.

Our record against Cambridge reads as follows:-

	PL	W	D	L	F	A
Home	3	2	0	1	11	5
Away	3	1	1	1	4	4
Totals	6	3	1	2	15	9

Down Memory Lane

15 years ago, 26th December 1969. Roger Hunt made his debut for the Wanderers in a 3-1 win at Preston, taking over from the injured Gordon Taylor. A crowd of 24,934 witnessed Bolton's first away win of the season with their goals coming from Charlie Hurley, John Manning and John Byrom with Archie Gemmill scoring for North End. Goalkeeper Alan Boswell saved a penalty from Preston's Graham Hawkins in an exciting holiday game.

The same day as the first team won at Preston the youth team also won a third round Youth Cup tie by 2-0 at Bury. The Bolton side included Paul Jones and Don McAllister whilst Bury's "star" was Terry McDermott. Bolton's goals came from Chris Duffey and Jim Redfern before a crowd of 1,752.

10 years ago, 21st December 1974. Promotion chasing Oxford United visited Burnden but the Wanderers ran out 3-1 winners ending their poor run of results. New signing, on loan from Huddersfield, Steve Smith made his debut in midfield as the Wanderers opened the scoring through Roy Greaves. Jeff Bray pulled one back for United just before half time but second half goals from Hugh Curran and Peter Nicholson were enough to win the points.

Warwick Rimmer played his last league game for the Wanderers after being with the club for 16 years.

26th December 1974. Bolton visited Sheffield Wednesday who were fighting against relegation. Don McAllister returned to the side in place of Warwick Rimmer after suspension and John Byrom replaced Roy Greaves in midfield.

Stuart Lee opened the scoring after six minutes and he made the second in the 65th minute for Hugh Curran to tap home.

5 years ago, 21st December 1979. Bolton visited Middlesbrough for a Friday evening fixture by the slump continued as they crashed 3-1. Mike Graham and Sam Allardyce came into the side in place of Chris Thompson and Paul Jones but it took only two minutes for Boro to take the lead when David Armstrong fired home.

John Craggs and David Hodgson increased Boro's lead but Bolton pulled one back in the 69th minute when Willie Morgan converted a penalty awarded for handball.

Junior Whites News

Today's mascot is Mark Jones who is 7 years old. Mark lives at Clough Meadow, Lostock and attends Lostock County Primary School. He enjoys playing football and his favourite player is George Oghani.



Friendlies

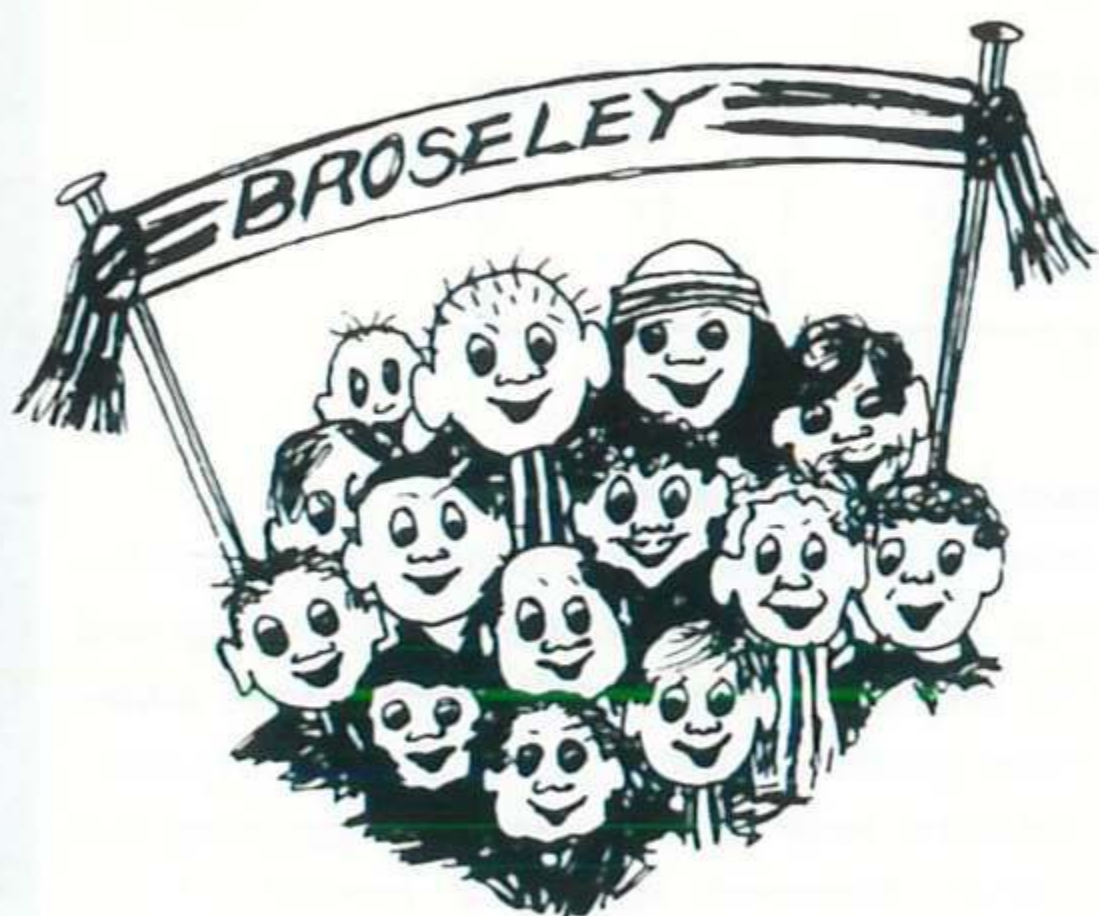
The first team have been involved in a couple of friendly games in recent weeks. The first was at Hyde United a few weeks ago when a 3-3 draw resulted in a game played as part of the deal of George Oghani's transfer to Bolton. The High flying Northern Premier Leaguers romped into a three goal lead after only 24 minutes with John Timmons grabbing a hat trick.

Simon Rudge and Graham Bell pulled goals back just before half time and it was left to Hyde old boy George Oghani to save the game with a penalty in the 69th minute awarded when he had been brought down.

Hyde were rewarded with a slightly higher than average league gate and produced a normal matchday programme.

A fortnight ago the Wanderers visited Fourth Division Rochdale as both clubs were without games having been knocked out of the FA Cup.

Barry Diamond put Rochdale one up early on but Bolton equalised when Jeff Chandler converted a penalty awarded after Steve Thompson had been upended. Diamond again gave Rochdale the lead but second half goals from substitute Steve Saunders and Steve Thompson, a 30 yard free kick, were enough to give the Wanderers a 3-2 win.



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In Reserve

21st November 1984.

Bolton Wand Res 0 Scunthorpe Utd Res 1

Bolton reserves went down to one of the most spectacular goals seen at Burnden this season and it was scored by a cricketer. Ian Botham keeping fit during the winter by playing football grabbed the only goal in the 82 minute with a tremendous volley from a left wing cross by Hill that everyone including the Wanderers defence could stand and admire.

Botham had given a warning to the Wanderers defence five minutes earlier when he had put the ball in the net only to be pulled up for a foul.

After a poor first half the game came to life in the second period and Irwin in the Scunthorpe goal did particularly well to keep a clean sheet with a number of fine saves.

Steve Saunders was always in the thick of things and was unlucky not to score in the 76th minute when he broke clear of the United defence, drew the keeper then saw his shot strike the bar and bounce clear.

Team: Platt, Berry, Whitlow, Booth, McElhinney, Lodge, Walker, Shepherd, Saunders, Caldwell, Chandler Sub Darby.

27th November 1984 Burnley Res 0 Bolton Wand Res 2

A strong Bolton side attempting to perfect the sweeper system

proved too much for bottom of the league club Burnley at — Turf Moor.

Jimmy Phillips opened the scoring in the 27th minute with a shot from just inside the penalty area.

Paul Booth then found his way into the ref's notebook for a foul on Paul Crabtree. Jeff Chandler increased Bolton's lead on the half hour when a through ball from Phillips put him in the clear as the Burnley defence moved out claiming offside.

The second half saw bookings for Gerry McElhinney and Brian Borrows for fouls and it came as no surprise when Borrows was substituted as he and Burnley winger Andy Kilner were continuing their feud.

Steve Saunders missed a golden chance to increase the lead in the 82nd minute when he received a splendid pass from Steve Thompson only to see his effort go over the bar.

Team: Platt, Borrows, Phillips, Booth, McElhinney, Deakin, Saunders, Lodge, Rudge, Thompson, Chandler. Sub Shepherd for Borrows.



STEVE SAUNDERS

THE EUROPEAN THREAT

BRITISH football faces the distinct possibility of losing many of its best players to foreign countries now that the EEC have insisted that the game gets into line with the rest of industry and allows freedom of movement between member nations.

A UEFA delegation met the European Commission in Brussels to try and stave off the pending implementation of the laws but were unsuccessful, managing only to gain a postponement of the deadline for submitting their proposals which now have to be filed by July.

Now the rest of the countries in the Community fear that their domestic game will be pilaged by the lire laden Italians and the richer Spanish clubs — after they joined the EEC in 1986 — with all the best players likely to be persuaded to drift to where the fortunes can be made.

In theory our footballers should have had the right to play in any country in the Common Market from the moment we entered and likewise British clubs had the right to sign any players from the EEC block, but the games governing bodies managed to maintain some control because football did not want freedom of labour.

Under the Treaty of Rome in 1978, they finally agreed to allow foreign imports, with a maximum of two per club, and Spurs started the ball rolling in England by signing Ossie Ardiles and Ricky Villa from Argentina.

The European Commission at that time allowed this restriction on the premise that football would gradually phase it out and come into line with the proper EEC laws . . . Now some six years later the authorities have pointed out that no further progress has been made and Ivor Richard, the European Commissioner, insists. "Change can be gradual — but change there must be."

DANGERS

It is obviously a two way thing but on balance there is no doubt that League football would suffer more than most because even Manchester United and Liverpool cannot compete with the wages paid by top Italian clubs who attract gates of 60-80,000 regularly.

Of course we shall be able to sign players from West Germany, Belgium and Holland but there is always the danger that clubs might abuse the system to get very ordinary players on the cheap.

We have already experienced this pattern before. Strangely when the English authorities agreed that clubs could field two foreign players in 1978, the ban here was lifted not only on EEC players but on foreign players from anywhere.

The result was that we were flooded with players from places like Yugoslavia — which was not in the Community — and that is when the Department of Employment stepped in and blocked the signing of players from outside the EEC unless they were of international standing. That rule of course still applies and will stop a real flood of players coming into League football from countries outside the Common Market.

The dangers are still there though. The brightest and best talents will be enticed abroad and that will mean English clubs replacing them with cheaper foreign players.

This will surely dilute what is widely claimed to be the strongest league in the world and on the broader front diminish League clubs chances of being successful in the three major European competitions; the European Cup, the European Cup Winners Cup and UEFA Cup.

INEVITABLE

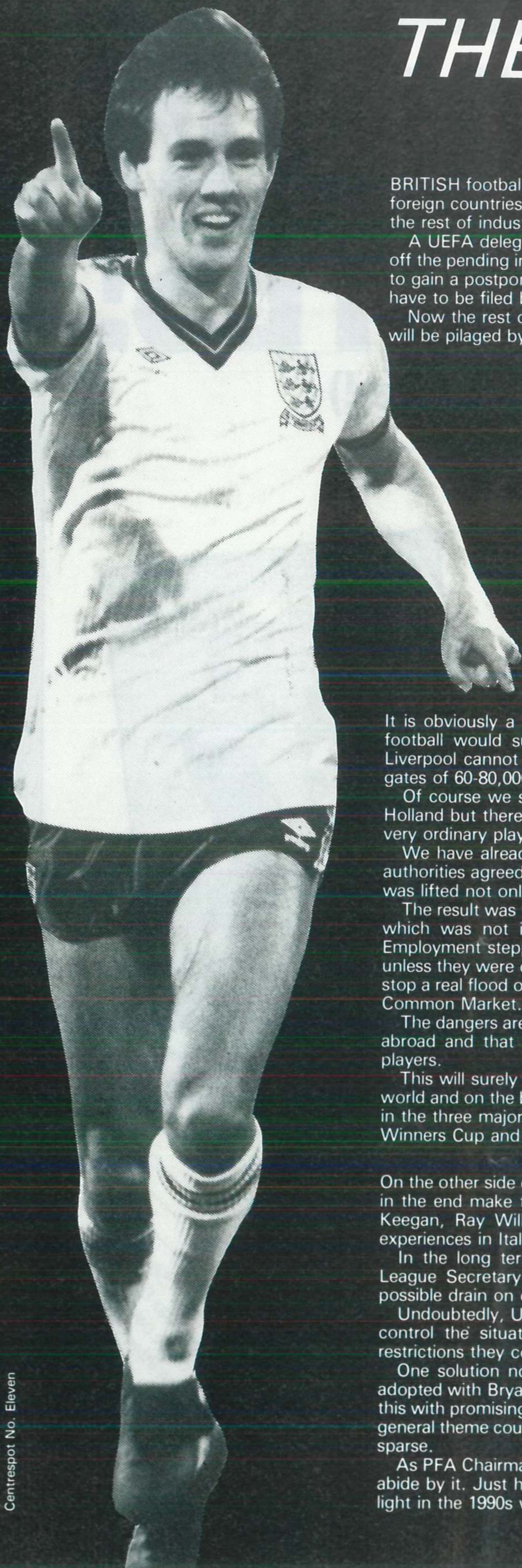
On the other side of the coin the broader horizons offered to our top players could in the end make them better players. That was very much the case with Kevin Keegan, Ray Wilkins and Mark Hateley also seem to be profiting from their experiences in Italy, and thus have become better players for England.

In the long term however the ruling cannot favour our game and Football League Secretary Graham Kelly is obviously worried by the implications of a possible drain on our best talent.

Undoubtedly, UEFA and leagues within the Common Market will be anxious to control the situation the best they can, although it is difficult to see what restrictions they could impose.

One solution no doubt would be to follow the line Manchester United have adopted with Bryan Robson and give players very long contracts, but when doing this with promising young players you are taking a gamble, and such a policy on a general theme could prove crippling to an industry whose finances are already very sparse.

As PFA Chairman Gordon Taylor concedes: "The law is the law," and we must abide by it. Just how devastating it will prove to our national game will come to light in the 1990s when the full effect will be there for all to see.



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It was the season that Kevin Keegan hung up his boots, Southampton and Leicester took on the British weather, whilst Bruce Grobbelaar was taking on the whole of Birmingham City.

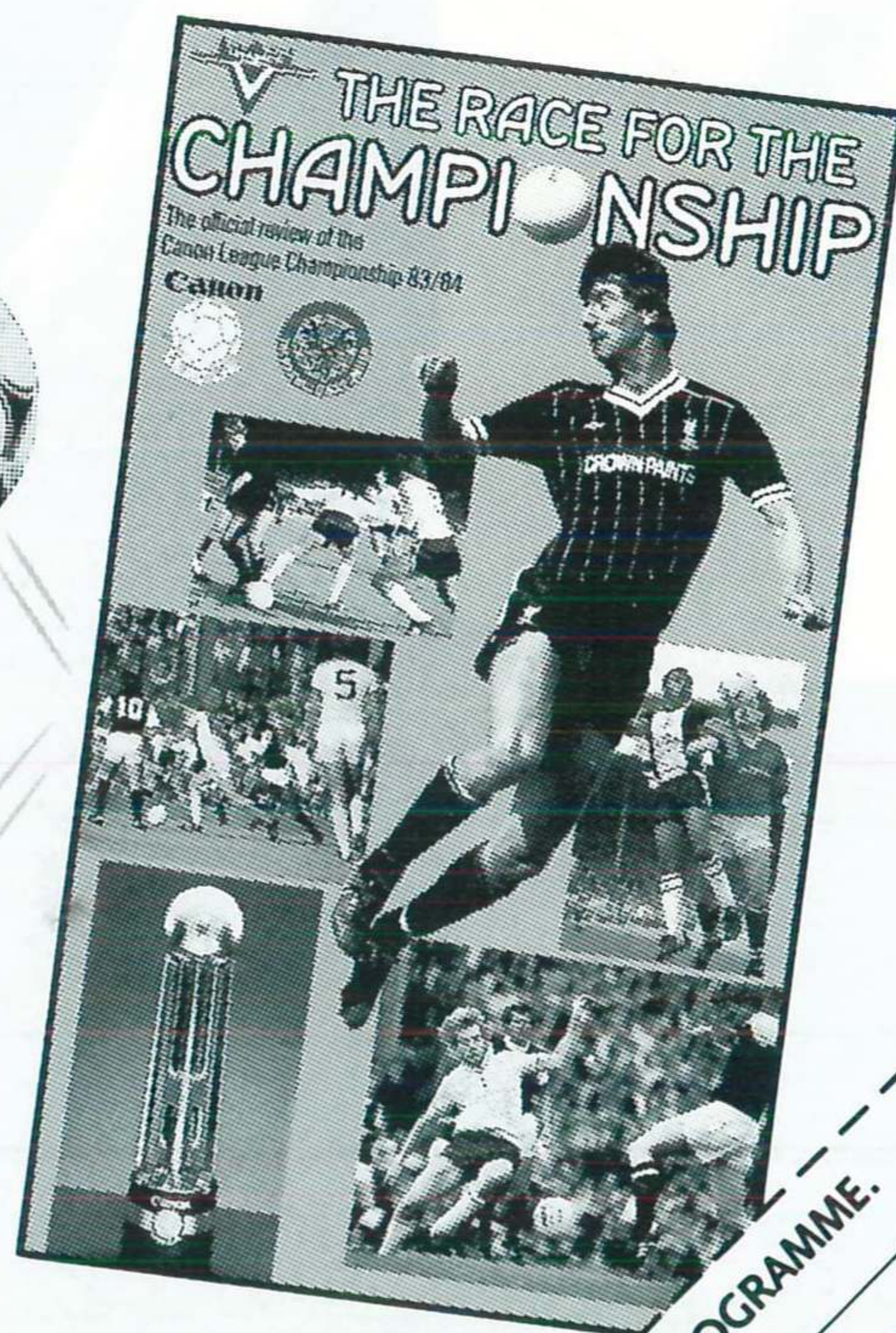
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They say publicity, even bad publicity, is better than none, but I wonder if that is truly the case, particularly with regard to some big name stars in the football world.

I doubt for instance whether the sort of headlines that have all too readily lead the back pages of the national press this season have done the game's image much good. Heated clashes at the Dell, undercurrents of dissent at Loftus Road and personality clashes at Villa Park, have all provided the tabloids with the sort of copy that sells papers, but does it sell football?

The reporters are only doing their jobs of course and it is natural that the media should make the most of any human story, so on reflection it is the people in the game itself that are damaging the sport's image.

But there are cases where the media men overstep the mark and go beyond the call of duty and most certainly that applies to the publicity that has surrounded Arsenal's Charlie Nicholas this season.

I'm not suggesting the Arsenal star is beyond reproach, indeed his off-field activities have set him up as a sitting target, but the way the lad has been hounded by some quarters of the press is beyond acceptable boundaries.

I was with him in the marble hall of Highbury as he stood up to a ferocious verbal assault from the media men. While Charlie wanted to talk football all they were interested in was stoking up a clash between the player and his manager Don Howe . . . Charlie would have none of it however snapping back curtly:

"The manager runs the club and what Don Howe says I have always agreed with and always will."

That sort of quote does not make a lead story however and the questions probed deeper.

HOUNDED

By Colin Benson

"I can take people saying I'm not playing well but when they interfere with my life off the field I get annoyed," explained the young Scot.

"The pressures are created by people asking those sort of questions not by a loss of form on the field.

"If I don't play well on the field then people have just got to accept that I'm not playing well. It is nothing to do with my private activities off the field."

The scribes gave up, there was no big scoop that evening, but like vultures hovering over a wounded beast they will be back to peck at the pieces should Charlie fail to recapture the magic they were all drooling over last September.

Newspapers are of course embroiled in a very competitive market but it is surely wrong that sensationalism should overcome propriety in the chase for greater circulation figures.

And it is not only the sports writers who jump on the bandwagon. The Daily Express motoring correspondent David Benson also put in his two-pennyworth in his "On The Road" column.

Making reference to two footballers convicted on drinking and driving offences he suggested: "SOCCER stars enjoy status, a good life and income in return for their talent. They also have a responsibility to their young fans who regard them as heroes."

He then goes on to suggest that it is not beyond the wit and resources of soccer managers to protect young players from themselves, but the punchline then suggests:

"If soccer stars treat our laws with contempt they should be banned from the game for as long as their disqualification lasts."

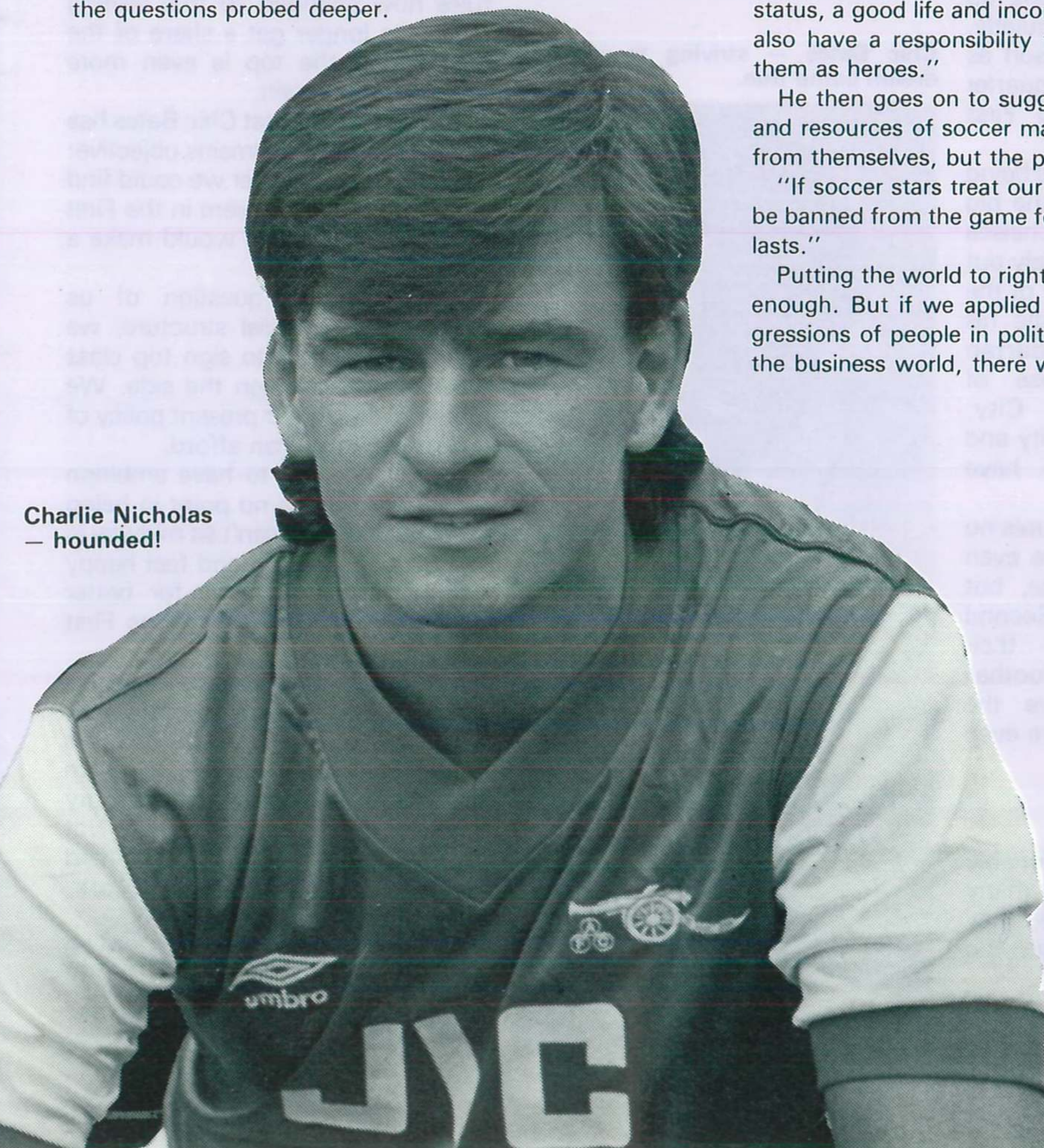
Putting the world to right from behind a typewriter is easy enough. But if we applied Mr Benson's logic to the transgressions of people in politics, the law, church, police, and the business world, there would be a considerable increase

in the Dole figures, that's for sure, and a few empty chairs in Fleet Street no doubt.

To suggest that a man should forfeit his job because he was over the limit would cause as big an outcry as Sir Keith Joseph faced from the Tory backbenchers over his plans to cut student grants, were it applied in general.

Footballers in general are young men. Some are thrown under the public microscope cruelly, others find the pressures of life at the top hard to handle. In general though there are very few who transgress from the straight and narrow and when compared with other industries football's record is second to none.

Charlie Nicholas
— hounded!



GAY MEADOW seems a million miles away from the traditional hustle of big time soccer. The small compact ground nestling snugly beside the river Severn, is more accustomed to housing gates of three to five thousand fans than the tens of thousands associated with First Division football. But there is no still water around Shrewsbury Town and their objective is clearly to join Arsenal, Liverpool and Manchester United in the top bracket.

Player manager Chic Bates, a spritely 35-year old, who first stepped into League football at Gay Meadow, on August 17th, 1974, in a 1-1 draw with Rochdale, took charge of the playing affairs in the summer following the departure of

They crashed four goals past Crystal Palace at the beginning of September, hit Huddersfield Town for five — on their own ground — and notched another four against Notts County, to keep the West Midlands flag flying.

The attacking policy is the hallmark of Chic's management. He says: "Graham Turner was a defender and thought along defensive lines. I am an attacker and always think in terms of attacking moves and that is how we play it now. We have scored a few goals and let a few in but few people who

have seen us this season have been disappointed with our football."

This is strictly a family club with the majority of the players evolving through the club's own youth scheme. "We have been very well organised over the past 10-years. We have never paid wages we can not afford and have built up our team on home-grown players so we have never been in financial trouble," he explains.

Carlisle United and Northampton Town before, have both shown that soccer minnows can climb the mountain and play in the top division. Their reigns were short lived but at least they have been there and that is the path Shrewsbury Town would love to follow.

THE SHREWSBURY

Graham Turner to Aston Villa, and he has no reservations about his priority.

"I felt we should have gone up last season," he reflects quietly. "Had we continued the season as we had started it in the first quarter then we would be playing First Division football today."

Bates sees this campaign as being more open than usual with the big guns of Newcastle United, Chelsea and Sheffield Wednesday safely out of the way but in the shadow of the old medieval town and castle his resources are strictly spartan when compared with those of Portsmouth, Birmingham City, Leeds United, Manchester City and Wolverhampton, who also have visions of promotion.

His playing staff of 18, features no big names, indeed none have even had First Division experience, but after finishing eighth in the Second Division table last season — their highest ever placing in the Football League — they now have the incentive to go on and achieve even greater things.

DONE BEFORE

Already this season, unfashionable Shrewsbury have surprised many pundits, not only because they started so well, but through the quality of their football.

Mr Bates has insisted on an adventurous progressive policy.

DREAM

Chic Bates — striving to make a dream come true.



AMBITION

Of course there is a danger of over-reaching their potential and with the rules now changed so that visiting teams no longer get a share of the gate life at the top is even more difficult to maintain.

It is a question that Chic Bates has considered but he remains objective: "Yes there is a danger we could find it difficult but if we were in the First Division I'm sure we would make a profit.

"There is no question of us altering our financial structure, we would not go out to sign top class players to strengthen the side. We would maintain our present policy of paying what we can afford.

"You have got to have ambition otherwise there is no point in being in this game. You can't sit midway in the Second Division and feel happy you have got to strive for better things and for us that means First Division football."

It's Percy Thrower country this where they are used to cultivating new strains. Chic Bates and his colleagues have a dream, a dream that they can "weld" Shrewsbury Town into a First Division side. Not through a massive injection of hard capital, but by sheer work, determination and organisation.

If they achieve their goal it will be a smack in the eye for a lot of soccer big spenders. Certainly Gay Meadow will never seem the same.

Great names from the past

JOE MERCER



he was being carried-off the great man lifted himself on the stretcher, and bravely waved his farewell to the fans.

It was not the end of his involvement in football however and following a managerial career that embraced Sheffield United, Aston Villa, Manchester City and England as a caretaker boss he celebrated 50 years in League Football in April 1980, while serving as a director of Coventry City.

THERE is no sport like football for throwing up larger than life characters who grab the game by the throat and leave their own indelible impression on it.

Each and every club has its own immortal hero, the legend from the past whose performances live on for ever. The great clubs are littered with such memories, the ghosts of triumphs past, and Arsenal has perhaps as many great names as any to reflect on but there is one outstanding character, who until recent years has made a profound and colourful contribution to the game.

Joe Mercer is the name, arguably the greatest captain ever to lead the Gunners.

When Arsenal manager Tom Whittaker talked Joe out of retiring in 1946 and persuaded him to abandon his plans to put all his energies into his grocery business in Cheshire, the shrewd Highbury chief knew what he was doing.

Joe was beyond his 30th birthday at the time and troubled by a persistent knee injury, so his transfer from Everton raised more than a few eyebrows.

On his arrival at Highbury Joe was told by Whittaker that he was to abandon his attacking game and become a defensive wing-half, charged with putting "bite" and stability into the defence.

50-YEARS

It was a totally foreign role for the England international, whose spindly frame was more accustomed to weaving away from tackles than making them but being the true professional he was he soon adapted.

Always a good talker, Joe soon stamped his authority on the newly assembled Arsenal team, his enthusiasm was contagious as he led the Gunners to two Football League Championships — 1948 and 1953 — and two FA Cup Finals, in 1950 and 1952.

The true measure of the man though was reflected by the Football Writers' Association, who voted Joe as "Footballer of the Year" at the end of 1949-50 season . . . It was no more than he deserved.

His career was sadly shattered by a broken leg at Highbury in April 1954. As

HUMOUR

It's a long time ago since young Joe kicked a ball around the streets of Ellesmere Port and then played his first proper game for Everton reserves in 1930. Dixie Dean, that most famous Everton striker recalled this memory of his first meeting with young Joe.

"When he first arrived at Everton in the early thirties he came into the dressing room, and appeared a little overawed by the occasion. He was a skinny lad who had come from junior football. I looked him up and down and thought blimey, his legs wouldn't last him one day on a postman's round! But, my what a footballer he turned out to be. A great brain and tremendous courage . . . Mind you he needed it with that physique!"

Humour has always played a big part in Joe's outlook. Talking about his own skills he says: "I was quick and could tackle and dribble and head it a little bit, but I wasn't a good long passer of the ball. In fact if they wanted me to play a long diagonal ball out to the winger it would take me three kicks to get it there.

"Mind you the balls were heavy in those days, we didn't have plastic covered balls. I remember when I was at Highbury there was no such thing as playing League matches under floodlights so when it began to get dark they used to throw on a white ball so the spectators could see it. I was about 38 then and I wanted a nice little light ball to play with so as soon as it got to half-time we would all have a go at the ref, 'get the white ball on ref.'"

Mercer was hailed as the best left-half in the country when he was at Everton and won 36 England caps between 1938-1946 to prove it, yet he recalls: "I had a great time at Arsenal. I learned a little bit about the tactical side of the game and captaincy there.

"The game was more black and white in those days of course. If their inside right scored four goals it was a question of 'where were you? You're the left-half you are supposed to be marking him.'"

Arsenal had few occasions to pose such a question to Joe however, who was 41 and still going strong when that broken leg finished his brilliant playing career.

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GO CONTINENTAL

THE hobby of programme collecting is becoming ever more popular around the world although it still remains a very British institution.

The reason for this is that it is not the common practice in most countries to publish regular programmes and where they are sold the productions do not usually measure up to the high quality, glossy magazine look that has now become commonplace in the Football League.

Because they are rarer, continental publications are much harder to obtain yet surprisingly for the British collector they are available at very reasonable prices . . . The fact is that not many collectors in the U.K. are interested in foreign programmes unless they cover games involving our own clubs.

Thus, for the collector starting an interest in programme collecting there is a wonderful opportunity to start a collection which is a little different from the usual.

Tracking down programmes from foreign sources can be a very fascinating exercise and you can come upon some very interesting publications.

Programmes are quite unusual in Israel for instance, yet they issue them for special prestige matches such as the internationals against Scotland and Northern Ireland. Did you know however that they read from right to left and therefore the programme is read from back to front!

Or, how about the programmes issued in Sweden. For the finals of the 1958 World Cup Series there was a programme for every game. They were all the same except for the centre pages and the teams and dates on the front cover. Copies are still available now, 26 years later, and can usually be picked up for £2 a copy, although the issues covering England's games are a little more expensive.

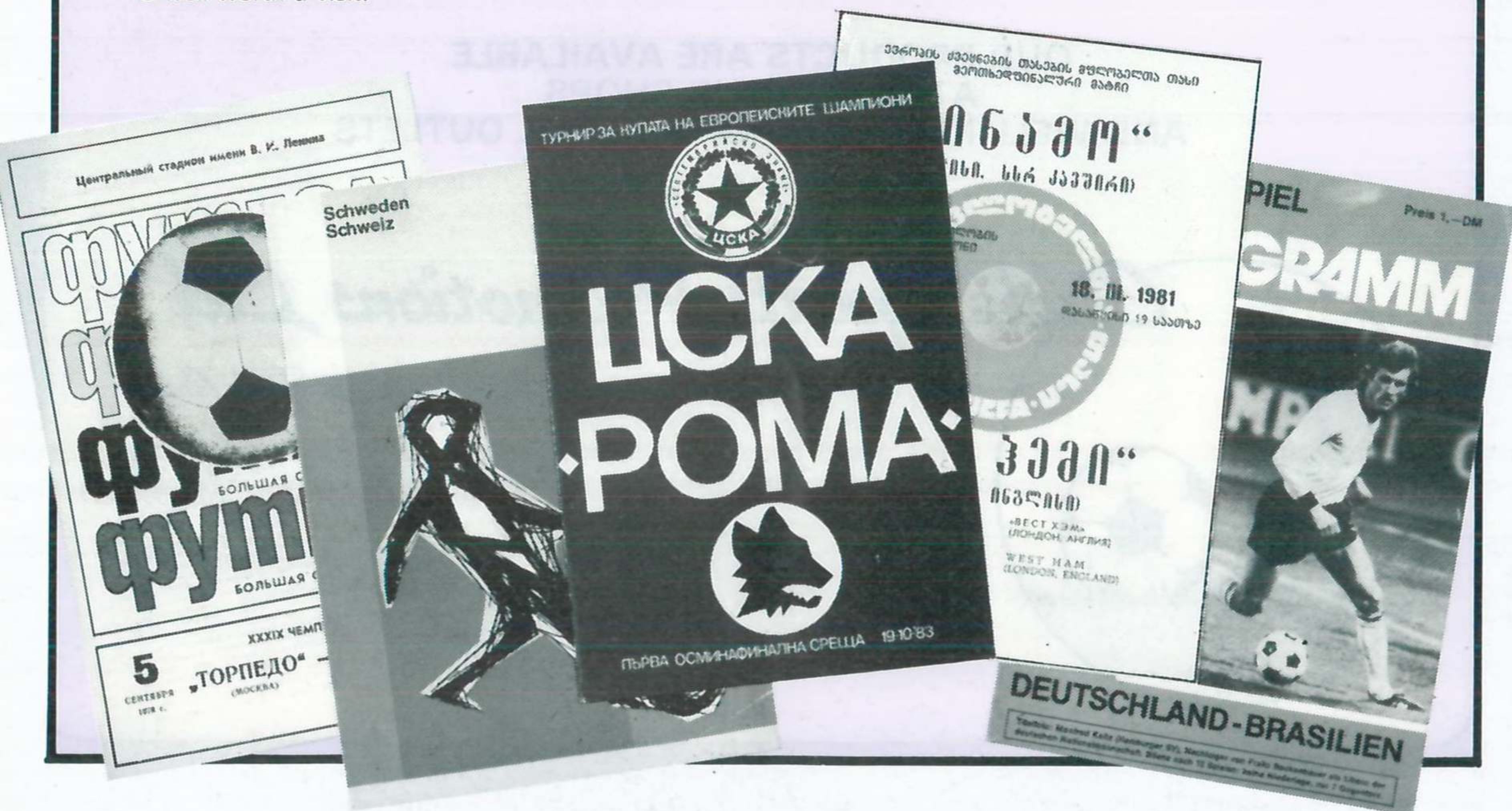
And if you are interested in League programmes from abroad then West Germany, Holland and the Scandinavian countries are the ones you should focus on.

Programmes are an accepted feature of big-time football in these countries and although collecting is not as wide-spread as it is here it is practised and so programmes are readily available. As indeed they are from Eastern Europe, although by far the more popular hobby in that part of the world is the collection of lapel badges.

In comparison to our own publications those issued in Russia are very modest, the most popular format being a single sheet folded into four. League programmes from behind the iron curtain are fairly easy to obtain nonetheless, and can cost as little as 30p each.

On the whole though foreign programmes seem to have little appeal to U.K. collectors and because of this the prices remain low and therefore offer a good opening for someone contemplating starting a collection. Even something as interesting as West Germany v Italy in the early 1960's can be obtained for 50 or 60p and programmes from Belgian Internationals are even cheaper.

If you are thinking of starting a collection you might start on these lines and if you need some help then contact the experts. If you are in the London area on Sunday January 6th for instance there is an ideal opportunity to browse over a good selection of continental programmes together with all the British editions at the New Year Programme Fair, at the Gt. Western Royal Hotel at Paddington station. All the top dealers will be there to give their advice and in addition there is a special exhibition featuring rare programmes, goalkeepers jerseys, football trophies and medals . . . It starts at 10.30 a.m. and goes on until 4.00 p.m. and is well worth a visit.



Star Profile

A look back at some of the Wanderers past players

NO anecdote is likely to fire the imagination of a gathering of old Bolton fans than the ones that are told about the legendary Tommy Banks.

One of the great "hard men" of the Bolton defence in the Fifties, they reckon that the very mention of the name "Banks" still puts the fear of God into Stanley Matthews!

What is all too often forgotten by some, though, is the quality of the full-back who was capped six times by England and who put his tackling and passing abilities to good use over a 233-game career with the Wanderers.

Here we look at the details of the career of **TOMMY BANKS** — truly one of **YESTERDAY'S HEROES**.

"OVER to you, brother" was the answer to Wanderers' problems when regular left back Ralph Banks was ruled out of the home game against Newcastle in October 1948.

Up stepped younger brother Tommy for his Burnden Park debut, and local fans got the first sight of the man they would grow to respect as one of the toughest defenders in football.

It wasn't Tommy Banks's First Division debut, for he had played at Wolves the previous May — on the day of the FA Cup Final in fact. And he had to wait another five years before becoming recognised as a regular first teamer.

From then on, however, he made the left back spot his own and went on to make more than 230 League appearances for the Wanderers before leaving to join Altrincham in 1961.

Tommy, of course, was at left back for the Wanderers in the 1958 FA Cup Final, picking up the winners' medal his brother Ralph missed out on in 1953.

And 1958 brought international recognition for the defender who was hard in the tackle yet constructive in his distribution of the ball.

He made his England debut against the Soviet Union in Moscow in May and within a month had played against the Russians twice more as the countries met in the same qualifying group in the World Cup Finals in Sweden.

In all he played six times for England — all in the space of five months — a fitting reward for the hard work and effort he put in during his formative years as a professional footballer.

Tommy Banks was born in New Bury, Farnworth and all through his career was well known for his down-to-earth attitude — a true Lancashire lad.

Nine years younger than brother Ralph, Tommy got his first national honours, playing for Farnworth Youth Club and winning recognition with both England and Great Britain Boys Clubs.

Not for him the modern day luxuries enjoyed by the professionals at First Division clubs . . . He signed part-time forms for the Wanderers while still working down the pit at Mosley Common.

Wolves had been keen to sign him at first but he chose Bolton and after a spell of working as a miner and as a footballer, he left the pit to concentrate full time on his chosen career.

Within two months, however, he was called into the Army to do his National Service.

He got plenty of football while he was in the Army playing two or three games a week and getting time off when he could to play for the Wanderers.

On one occasion he played three games in four days travelling from his Oswestry base to Portsmouth for the first game, back to Oswestry for the second and then on to Bolton for the third to play in the Wanderers' Reserves.

The dedication he showed to his chosen "trade" paid off and his service to the Wanderers was rewarded with two loyalty benefit cheques.

When he left Wanderers, Tommy joined Altrincham and two years later quit the game to concentrate on life in the building trade.

Still a true Lancashire lad, Tommy Banks still lives in the area and in recent years has been a regular visitor to Burnden Park to hear many of the famous old stories told of the glory days of the Fifties and the inimitable style of the Bolton defensive line up of Hartle, Banks and Co.



Old foes — Tommy (centre) meets up again with Tom Finney (right) in the company of celebrity after-dinner speaker Bob 'The Cat' Bevan.



Tommy (right) relaxing in the bath with Wanderers team mates Ray Parry, Roy Hartle, Bryan Edwards and John Higgins.

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Wayne Foster in aerial action.



A close call for Steve Thompson.



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Pics by Bolton Evening News

Facts

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Date	Opponents	F.A.	Att.
1984 Aug.	Bristol Rovers	0-1	4,469
Aug.	Oldham Athletic (MC1 1L)	2-1	3,286
Sept.	Derby County	2-3	11,478
1	Oldham Athletic (MC1 2L)	4-4	4,010
8	Hull City	0-0	5,403
15	Rotherham United	1-3	3,926
18	Swansea City	1-2	3,636
22	Plymouth Argyle	7-2	3,876
25	Shrewsbury Town (MC2 1L)	2-2	3,720
29	Doncaster Rovers	0-2	4,850
Oct.	Walsall	3-1	4,445
6	Reading	1-3	3,253
9	Shrewsbury Town (MC2 2L)	2-1	5,445
13	A.F.C. Bournemouth	2-1	4,651
20	Preston North End	4-0	5,691
23	Bristol City	2-3	7,715
27	Burnley	2-3	6,460
30	Notts County (MC3)	1-6	4,547
Nov.	Lincoln City	1-0	4,019
6	York City	2-1	4,672
10	Newport County	2-3	2,073
17	Hull City (FAC1)	1-2	6,424
24	Gillingham	1-2	4,381
Dec.	Brentford	1-2	3,668
15	Millwall	2-0	4,544
22	Cambridge United		
26	Wigan Athletic		
29	Bradford City		
1985 Jan.	Orient		
12	Derby County		
15	Bristol Rovers		
19	Hull City		
Feb.	Rotherham United (FA 4)		
26	Doncaster Rovers		
9	Plymouth Argyle		
12	Walsall		
16	Swansea City (FA 5)		
Mar.	Lincoln City		
23	Burnley		
5	Bristol City		
9	Preston N.E. (FA 6)		
16	A.F.C. Bournemouth		
23	Reading		
24	Milk Cup Final		
Apr.	York City		
29	Wigan Athletic		
6	Orient		
9	Newport County (FA SF)		
13	Gillingham		
20	Brentford		
May	Millwall		
4	Bradford City		
6	Cambridge United		
11	FA Cup Final		
18			

NEXT HOME MATCHES

Canon League Division 3
ORIENT
Tuesday 1st January
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

Canon League Division 3
DERBY COUNTY
Saturday 12th January
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

Home matches and goalscorers in **bold** type. + Player substituted. ● Substitute used. ★ Own goal.

FACTS

CANON LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

Up to and including Saturday 15th December 1984

	P	HOME			GOALS			AWAY			GOALS			Pts
		W	D	L	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A		
Bradford City	19	7	2	0	0	15	4	5	2	3	14	9	40	
Rotherham United	19	6	3	0	0	19	9	5	1	4	10	7	37	
Millwall	18	8	1	0	0	19	4	2	3	4	13	15	34	
Hull City	19	7	2	1	1	18	6	2	5	2	10	12	34	
Gillingham	19	5	3	1	1	23	12	5	0	5	12	21	33	
Bristol Rovers	18	6	3	0	0	14	4	3	2	4	12	13	32	
Derby County	19	8	2	0	0	21	9	1	2	6	6	12	31	
Bristol City	19	6	2	1	1	18	9	2	4	4	12	15	30	
AFC Bournemouth	19	7	1	2	2	17	7	1	4	4	4	8	29	
Doncaster Rovers	19	6	2	2	2	20	12	2	2	5	14	17	28	
York City	19	5	3	1	1	20	10	3	1	6	13	19	28	
Brentford	19	5	2	2	2	17	9	2	3	5	7	13	26	
Walsall	18	2	5	2	2	11	9	4	2	3	12	11	25	
Wigan Athletic	19	5	2	2	2	11	7	1	5	4	8	15	25	
Reading	19	4	2	4	4	14	14	3	2	4	11	17	25	
Newport County	20	6	2	2	2	16	10	0	4	6	5	15	24	
Lincoln City	19	4	5	1	1	19	9	1	2	6	7	14	22	
Bolton Wanderers	19	7	1	2	2	22	8	0	0	9	12	24	22	
Burnley	19	3	4	3	3	13	11	2	3	4	15	20	22	
Plymouth Argyle	19	4	3	3	3	15	13	1	3	5	14	24	21	
Preston North End	19	4	2	4	4	15	19	2	0	7	9	27	20	
Swansea City	19	2	1	6	6	11	16	2	2	6	11	22	15	
Orient	19	2	1	6	6	14	23	2	1	7	9	17	14	
Cambridge United	19	1	1	7	7	7	17	1	2	7	11	22	9	

HB
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CENTRAL LEAGUE FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	Goals F A
1984		
Aug.	Rotherham United	4-0
Sept.	Leeds United	1-1
	Doncaster Rovers	2-3
	Oldham Athletic	0-2
	Hull City	2-1
Oct.	Middlesbrough	1-3
	Port Vale	0-2
	Grimsby Town	4-3
	Leicester City	0-2
	Preston North End	2-2
Nov.	Blackpool	4-0
	Wigan Athletic	1-4
	Scunthorpe United	0-1
	Burnley	2-0
Dec	York City	0-5
	Wolverhampton Wanderers	6-2
1985	Sunderland	
Jan.	Rotherham United	
	Leeds United	
	Doncaster Rovers	
	Oldham Athletic	
Feb.	Middlesbrough	
	Hull City	
	Wigan Athletic	
	Blackpool	
Mar.	Preston North End	
	Leicester City	
	Grimsby Town	
	Port Vale	
Apr.	Scunthorpe United	
	Burnley	
	York City	
	Sunderland	
May	Wolverhampton Wanderers	

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— dual carriageway, cross two roundabouts, Police
H.Q. to right). Princess Way one-way system. Keep
ahead with Godwin Street and Duke Street to Manor
Row and turn left continuing with Manningham Lane to
Queen's Road (approx ¾ mile). Turn right into Queen's
Road and right again into Midland Road to the football
ground.



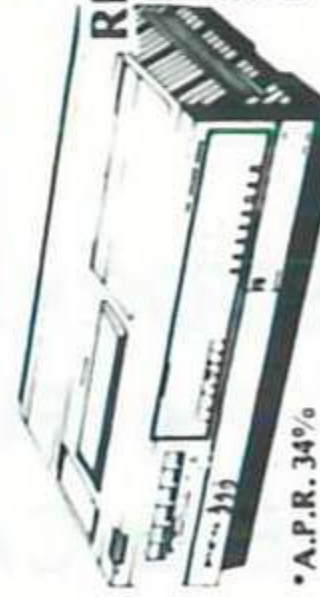
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WIGAN ATHLETIC

BOLTON

A6140 to junction with A58
A58 to Hindley junction with A577
A577 to Wigan

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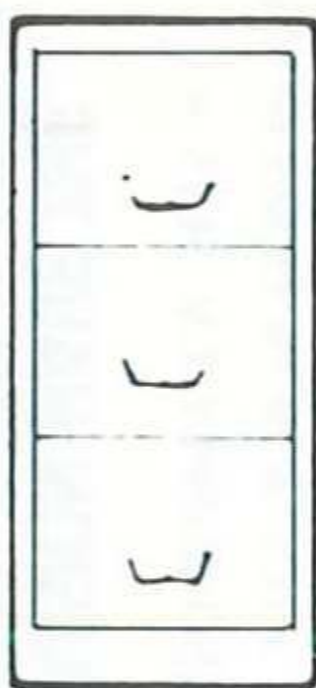
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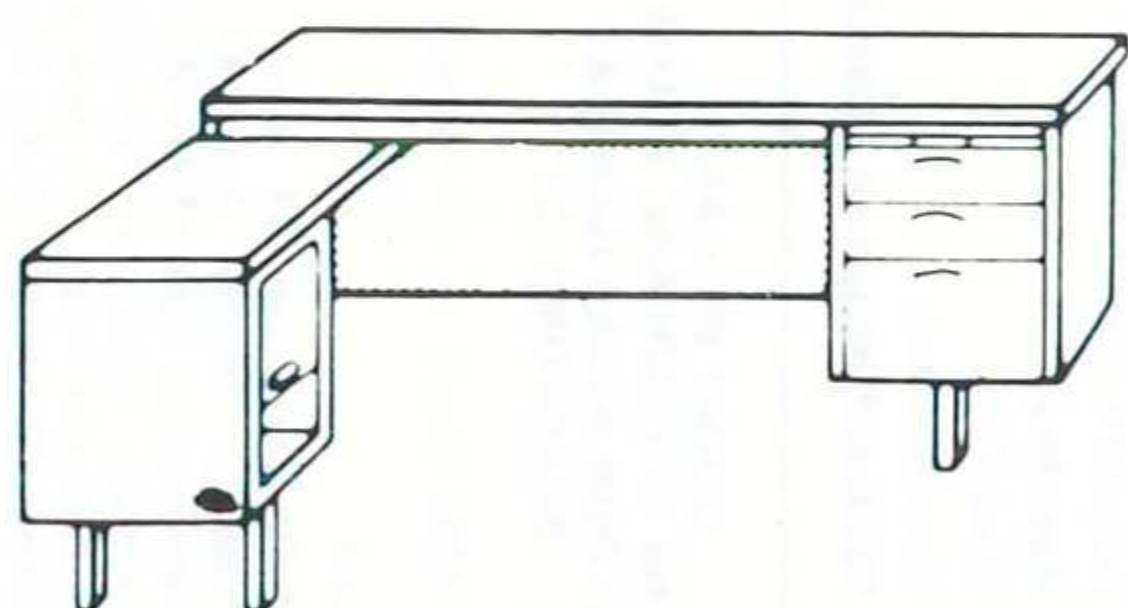
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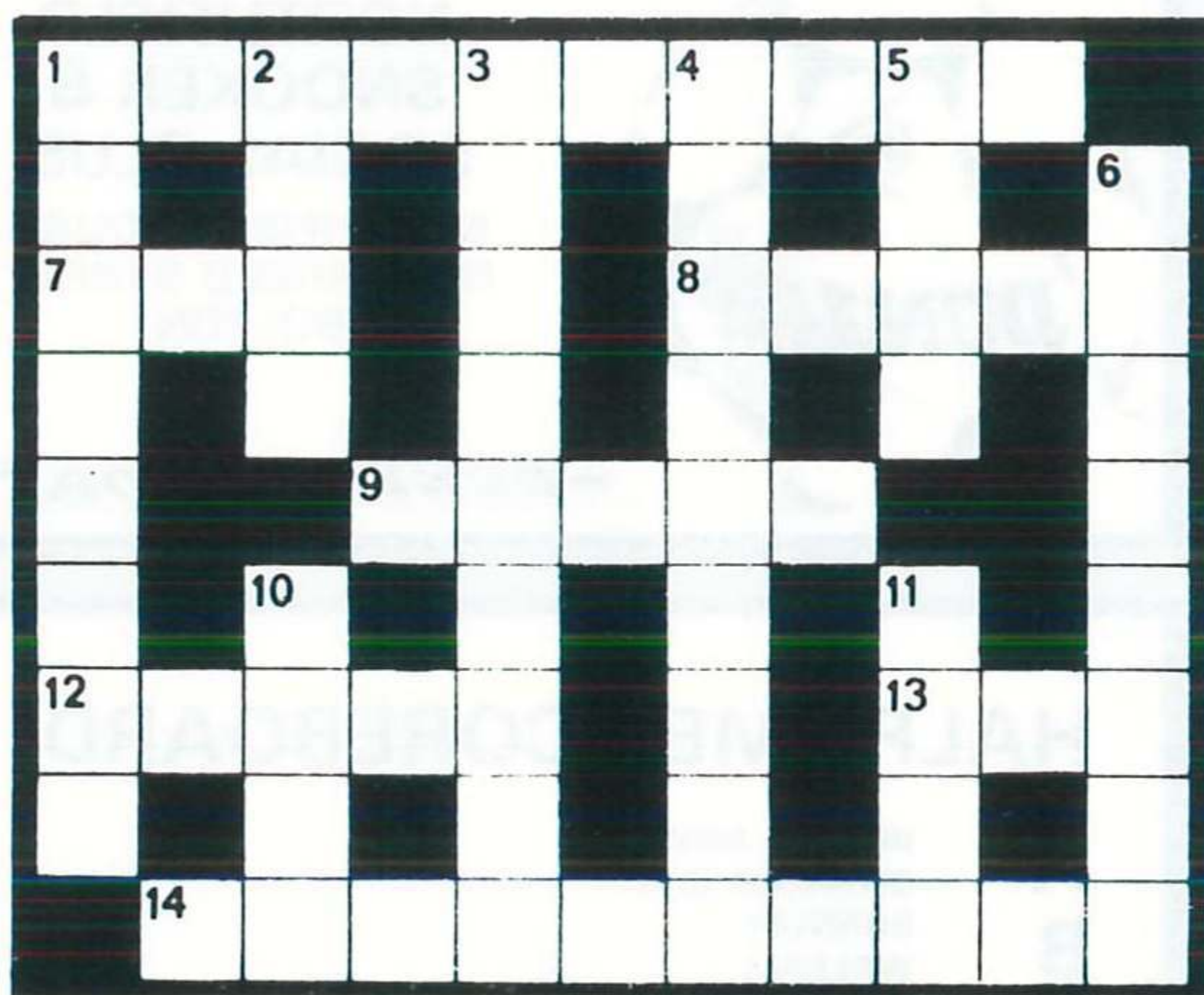
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CROSSWORD No. 13

ACROSS

- Forward in the Midlands through the 1970s with Notts County, Peterborough and Cambridge (4,6)
- Follower of a club's fortunes (3)
- Former Northern Ireland player and manager (5)
- An American international with several League clubs, his brother played for (and his daughter Lorraine runs so well for) England (5)
- The Cooper who kicked off and consolidated his career with Plymouth Argyle from 1979 (6)
- Reading receive others at — — — Park (3)
- Jesse — — —, old WBA and England full-back (10)



DOWN

- Birmingham full-back who died shortly after his also-ill-fated England partner, Roger Byrne (4,4)
- Former Pompey man seen managing the Republic of Ireland (4)
- Singapore-born forward in the 1984 FA Cup final (9)
- Surinam-born signing for Ipswich in 1984 (9)
- The touring Scottish Cooper who is an 8 across soundalike (4)
- Former Reading, Forest and Ipswich striker who scored in over two-thirds of his 250-odd League matches (8)
- Jackie Milburn netted this many for England (4)
- Direction taken by Sunderland's top-scorer in 1983/84 (4)

Answers to No. 12: **ACROSS:** 1. Tommy, 5. father, 7. Noble, 9. Fratton Park, 11. shoot, 13. Lester, 14. amber. **DOWN:** 1. Tony Field, 2. Mal, 3. Chicago, 4. cricketer, 6. Alan, 8. Beamish, 10. (after extra) time, 12. Ham.

QUICK QUIZ No. 13

- Do Northern Ireland clubs play in the Irish League or the League of Ireland?
- What was the score in the World Cup final in which each country had a Z in its name?
- A club founded in 1887/88 had Maley, McStay and McGrory as its first three managers — who came next?
- Which club promoted in 1984 has a home which could be said to mean 'Villa Park'?
- The League's 'pools panel' has three members: Blackpool, Liverpool and who?

Answers to No. 12

- Nine, 2. Manchester City, 3. 1937 — champions, 1938 — relegated, 4. Aston Villa, 5. All of them.

ANSWERS IN THE NEXT PROGRAMME

MIXED DOUBLES No. 13

Re-order the letters in each of the words

YEARS and **YOWLER**

to reveal two "OLD ENGLAND MEN"

Answers to No. 12: CONTI, MALDERA.

FITNESS TEST No. 13

Re-arrange all the letters of
SUBSTITUTION

to create four four-letter
words that fit the edges of
the diamond.



Answers to No. 12
BOND/DYNE, BRIM/MALE

ON THE BALL No. 13

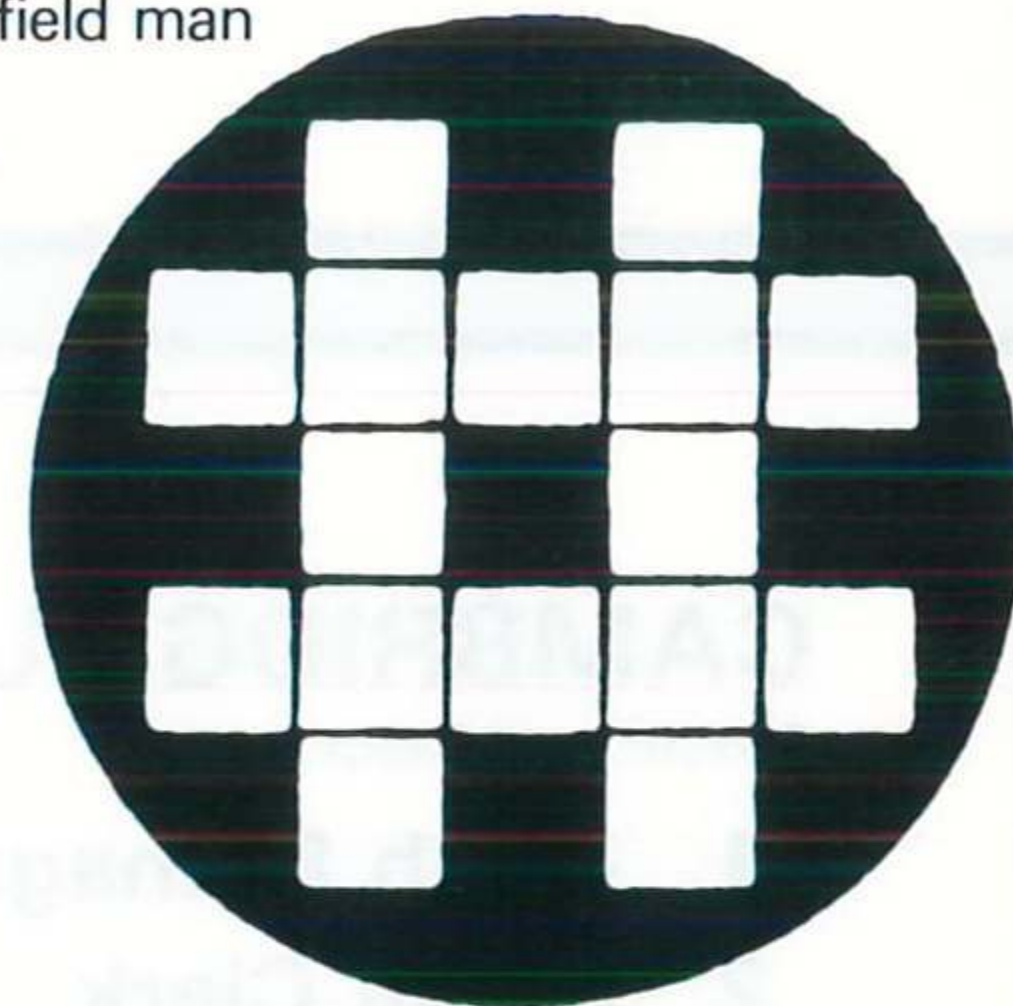
Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where the rest must go.

Where Wilkins went

— — — Pate, old Mansfield man

Glasgow club

The answer for Askew



Answers to No. 12: WHITE, JONES, THROW, STEEL.

Puzzle Page

Teams

BOLTON WANDERERS

White and Navy Blue

1. Simon Farnworth
2. Brian Borrows
3. Jimmy Phillips
4. Warren Joyce
5. Gerry McElhinney
6. Mark Came
7. Ray Deakin
8. Jeff Chandler
9. Wayne Foster
10. Tony Caldwell
11. Graham Bell
- 12.

CAMBRIDGE UNITED

Amber and Black

1. Keith Branagan
2. Steve Clark
3. Mike Bennett
4. Andy Beattie
5. David Moyes
6. Keith Osgood
7. Andy Sinton
8. Stephen Spriggs
9. Robbie Cooke
10. Stephen Pyle
11. Tom Finney
12. Pat Rayment

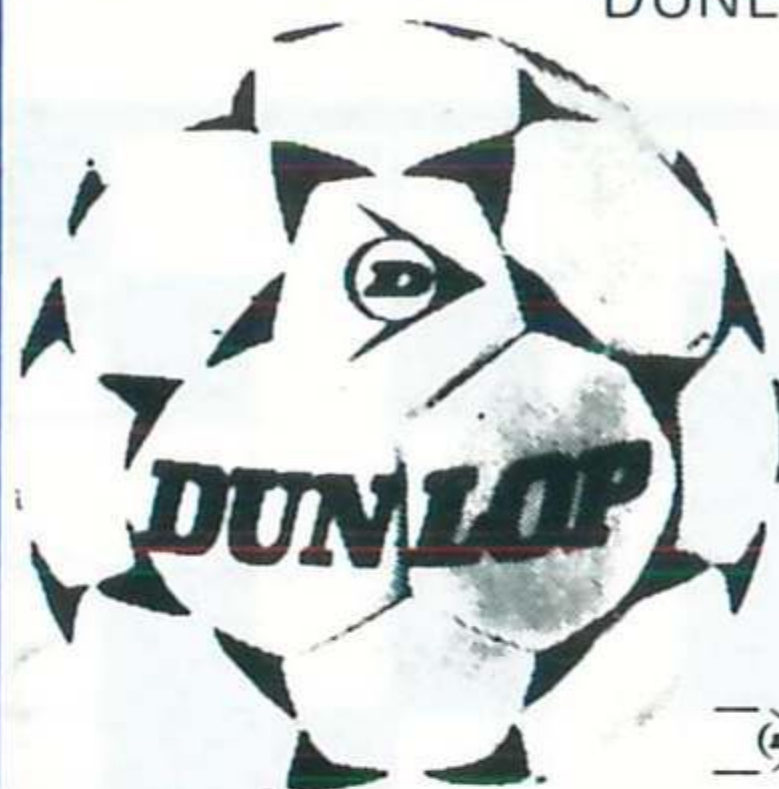
Today's Referee: NEVILLE ASHLEY

(Nantwich, Cheshire)

Professional buyer with pharmaceutical company. Married with two children. Commenced refereeing in 1964 and progressed via Mid-Cheshire and Cheshire County Leagues. Interested in keeping fit and road running. Chairman of North West and North Wales section of the A.F.L.R. & L. and a member of the F.A. Panel of Speakers for referee instructors. Refereed 1982 F.A. Charity Shield, League Cup Semi-Final in 1982 and Milk Cup Semi-Final in 1984.

Linesmen: S. CARR (Maghull) Red Flag
D. ILLINGWORTH (Shipley) Yellow Flag

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I	HULL CITY
J	BRENTFORD
K	LINCOLN CITY
L	BRADFORD CITY
M	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE
N	MILLWALL
O	READING
P	BRISTOL CITY
Q	ROTHERHAM UNITED
R	WIGAN ATHLETIC
S	ARSENAL
T	WATFORD
U	ASTON VILLA
V	NEWCASTLE UNITED
W	EVERTON
X	CHELSEA
	MANCHESTER UNITED
	IPSWICH TOWN
	NORWICH CITY
	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR
	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY
	STOKE CITY
	WEST HAM UNITED
	SOUTHAMPTON
	CARDIFF CITY
	SHEFFIELD UNITED
	FULHAM
	MANCHESTER CITY
	GRIMSBY TOWN
	MIDDLESBROUGH
	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN
	BRIGHTON & HOVE A.
	NOTTS COUNTY
	CHARLTON ATHLETIC
	PORTSMOUTH
	OXFORD UNITED
	WOLVERHAMPTON W.
	LEEDS UNITED
	WREXHAM
	BLACKPOOL